

[Condensed from the Baltimore Clipper.]

Southern and Western COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.

This body, consisting of delegates from Southern and Western States, met on Saturday morning, at 11 o'clock. The committee of arrangements and reception were present during the morning to receive the delegates and furnish them with tickets. Brants Mayer, Esq., on the part of the citizens of Baltimore, read the following address:

Fellow Citizens of the South and West:

We have invited to this city, in the city of Baltimore, in order to consider questions of interest to the sections of country where you come, as well as to ourselves. It is our duty as well as our pleasure to receive you, and to do so with all the cordiality and good will which you have so cordially responded to our call.

Gentlemen, we have summoned you here to-day to lay, with proper services, and to consider, with hearty feeling, the subject of a great National Exchange. Many circumstances have lately combined to direct public notice to the city of Baltimore as the most suitable of the Union for the production in which your parts of the Union are so largely interested. When the census of 1850 was first published, and it was seen that the population of Baltimore had augmented in a larger proportion within the preceding ten years than that of any other Atlantic city, men of business and of the quiet other Atlantic cities, and found no solution save in the facts that there was a seclusion of enterprise activity among our people, fostered by the prospect of future progress, that the internal commerce of the country was in a state of stagnation, and that we were not, of course, republish. We thought we had distinctly answered his first queries as to what the book says upon certain points.

Our Reverend Friend seems determined to make us tell what we meant when we said of the Professor's theory that, Phrenologically, it was no heard to believe; but, theologically, it was a question with us how much harder it was to believe in the science of Geology itself. Any answer in this matter is not an opinion, and it is the only thing in the shape of an opinion that we advanced, will be entirely removed when we say that the theory appeared to us not inconsistent with the assumptions of Phrenology, but rather a new feature in the science of Geology—a step in advance of the researches of other Geologists. We infer, however, that our Reverend Friend rejects Geology, and therefore rejects all theories based upon it.

We will dismiss the subject with a reference to where it properly belongs—Professor Grimes and his book. A theological discussion with us is inappropriate in our columns, and we do not think the public care any thing about what we believe respecting any system of theology. We trust that our friend in future will base his remarks on the Professor's own admissions of his theory, and that he will give the subject a thorough sifting, and that the Professor will not shrink from such an investigation.

Messrs. Ensmanns.—In your paragraph on Mr. Grimes' work, headed, "Phrenology-Geology, in Saturday's paper, you say, "We do not wonder that some of the old theorists got into the Professor's hair, when he announced this new and startling system. Phrenologically, it is not very hard to believe. Theologically, it is a question with us, considering the opinions long held in regard to the creation of man, how much harder it was to believe in the science of Geology itself." You also speak of "the erratic notions of the work" and "the explosion of the new and wonderful theory."

Now, at that I know all this new, and wonderful theory, or those erratic notions, was what you had stated, and what I have gathered from hearing, with deep attention, one of the Professors' Lectures. And I suppose my knowledge was at least equal to ninety-heads of your readers.

Not being able to comprehend those so new and startling, nor being of that mental calibre, by which all erratic notions are comprehended in a moment, I felt to trespass upon your good nature, by asking you a few questions. I perceived and admired the caution manifested in your statements; and in fact, they appeared to me to be made with a kind of *quasi* faith, and that the opinions entertained by many very respectable people had made too deep an impression, to allow you to swallow the nostrum all at once.

But I did hope that the good Professor would have helped you out of the slough of dispond, to use a Huxleyan phrase, as he seems to understand that danger, and that he would have condescended to enlighten the darkness of enquiring minds.

Conceive then, of my great surprise and disappointment, when I read the remarks appended to my communication in Monday's paper, and found that they made darkness only more visible. I was deeply anxious to understand the theory, whether the successive developments of the organs, and functions of the brain, had reference to the human brain, and whether the ages that elapsed between the organization of the lowest and highest phrenologies, referred to man, or to other works of the Great Creator. In reply to these important enquiries, I am told, that the organs and functions of the brain have been gradual and progressive.

I again ask, WHAT, THE HUMAN BRAIN?

You inform your readers "that Mr. Grimes recognizes the truth of the book of Genesis." But then not so commonly interpreted. "That its literal interpretation cannot be sustained by the facts of geology." And your quotation from his work says, "That the book of Genesis is not to be construed literally, when it seems inconsistent with natural science."

The Professor does not seem to be aware, that there might possibly be a deficiency in our natural science, and this seeming inconsistency might lie in our ignorance and not in divine revelation. We may not as yet, have penetrated the whole arena of nature, nor fully comprehended, as the GREAT ROMAN has, the heights and depths of his mighty works. Scholars should try to understand the substance, by the plain, and the unknown, by the revealed. But we often try to reverse their natural order.

"The physical doctrines and illustrations" (of Genesis) he tells us "belong to a barbarous age, and are rejected with propriety." This is amazingly flippant, and modest, in a man that professes to believe in the truth of the Bible. Was Moses God's amanuensis? and if so, was the Divine Being under the influence of barbarism? Has the fact of our being able "to look through the telescopic tube of science," either enlightened or civilized the Almighty Instructor of Moses? Is doing any honor to God's work, or our souls, to admit its inspiration, and then to lay claim to interpret it to suit our crude theories? It is not a capacious disposition, that induces the writer thus to present the subject, but it is a real desire to understand the subject. If, indeed, he has at all comprehended this darkness profound, he will be obliged to take issue, both with the supposed geological fact, and of consequence, with the conclusions.

JOHN WINTER.

Compos.—A new musical arrival is shortly expected in the person of Louis Moreau Gottschalk, a young American composer and pianist. Young Gottschalk is about 24 years old, and a Louisiana by birth. Since 1847, he has been a student and composer in Europe, where he has won a distinguished reputation, both as composer and performer.

Mines Wanted.—The Cumberland Mines' Journal states that the increased demand for Cumberland coal, has created a great demand for mines in that region. A large number of practical men could find permanent and profitable employment at the mines at the present time.

The female orphan asylum in Columbus, Ga., was destroyed by fire on the 10th. Henry T. Hall, Esq., raised by subscription \$1,700 in a few hours after, and the asylum will be immediately rebuilt.

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supremacy of the South, in the States of Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana;

the amendment in favor of steam communication

with South America was put to the Convention

by the Chair, and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Burrell, of Virginia, took the floor.

He said that he had been able to get here in time for

the preceding portions of the deliberations, and

consequently was ignorant as to what had transpired

in regard to the subject of the Convention. He

wished to know whether the subject of a

great Southern trade route had been introduced

into the Convention. That subject, he considered as one of

vast importance to the whole South. Political

Conventions such as this, he would travel and

attend. The problem of the Convention was put

as to how the rights of the South could be restored.

His solution of it was that the rights of the South

could only be recovered, and retained, through the

ability of the South to maintain the

mystery of the superiority of the North lies in the

fact that more people go North than come South.

Population is power, and in that fact lies the

difference between the two sections of the

country. The late census publication, he charged

as a most valuable document, although it

set forth some lamentable facts. Virginia had lost

in population, which was really to be accounted

for in the fact that her inhabitants could not bear

the heat of the South. The population of the

South. The Chesapeake, instead of having its fair

banks covered with mighty cities, and thriving

villages, and floating on its broad bosom the coun-

less ships of a mighty commerce, is now nothing

but a great fish pond, with its genial

climate and magnificent harbor, is by a far better

port of entry than New York; yet, witness the vast

disparity between them. Comparison would merely

be ridiculous. De Witt Clinton, the great

interior improvement policy, had been the great

enemy of the South. Not that he took anything

from the South, but that he had added vastly to the

property of the North. Mr. B. here took his seat

and much applause greeted the delivery of a very

eloquent, of which this is but an imperfect

sketch.

Brants Mayer, Esq., inquired of Mr. Burrell what

property of a Southern man he had taken to Vir-

ginia. Mr. B. said—"With pleasure; I am here

from Bedford county, Virginia, which has 25,000

inhabitants, 8,000 slaves, raises 2,000 hds. of to-

bacco and 200,000 lbs. of wheat. The people of

this county are resolved to the effect that a

railroad from the most practical point of the

Mississippi valley to California is a measure of na-

tional importance, which was adopted.

Mr. Freemen offered a resolution, which when the

Convention adjourned, it was to meet again in the

city of Memphis, Tennessee, on the first of June next

—adjourned.

A resolution authorizing the appointment of a

Committee of five to be designated by the Chair,

which shall be empowered to call together the Con-

vention at the appointed time, invite delegates, &c.,

was adopted.

The Convention, then, adjourned sine die.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.